CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Hungary/USSR	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Construction on the Chop (USSR)-	DATE DISTR.	9 August 1954
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- 1. During the reconstruction of the second line of the double-tracked Chop-Satoraljaujhely-Miskolc rail line, 270-cm. ties, instead of the usual 260-cm. ties, were used. This was done in case of an eventual rapid conversion to Soviet (broad) gauge. In the event that this was necessary, conversion could be accomplished easily by adding a rail on the additional 10 centimeters and expansion of the embankment would be unnecessary.
- 2. The use of the 270-cm. ties does not indicate that the Soviet authorities intend to proceed immediately to the construction of a broad-gauge line as far as Miskolc; this will probably not be done for a few years. No work was in progress or planned for the approaches to the Satoraljaujhely and Miskolc stations to adapt switches, etc., to the broad gauge.
- 3. For the present, Miskole will not be a transfer point, but this function will be carried out at Zahony and Kisvarda (23 km. from Zahony). The only broad-gauge lines into Hungary run to these two stations at present. At Zahony, the line crossed the bridge and entered the station. A bread-gauge expansion of this line has been built to Kisvarda, which enabled a larger number of Soviet rail cars to load and unload in Hungary.

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